THE SEED

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NEWSLETTER FOR APPLE PEOPLE

DENVER APPLE PI

denver apple pi Seed

P.O. BOX 17467
DENVER, COLORADO 80217

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Board Member & Store Rep .....Tom Angelos
Board Member & Sales Officer .....Chris Saxon
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MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION

APPLE PI is an Apple Computer Users Group - not affiliated with Apple Computer, Inc. - that provides many member benefits, some of which are:

MONTHLY MEETINGS - On the first Thursday of each month at 7:00 p.m. APPLE PI holds its general meeting at the Green Center, Colorado School of Mines Campus, Golden, Colorado. This meeting is a combination of an informational meeting, new product announcements, and a short business meeting. The members are given an opportunity to buy computer supplies a little above cost. Software products are given away as door prizes.

On the Sunday following the general meeting there is an informal meet which is usually held at the Clear Creek Office Park, 4251 Kipling, in Wheat Ridge. This meeting is from 10:00 a.m. until 3:00 p.m. and provides a more informal environment to seek or give advice to fellow members and get copies of programs from the APPLE PI Library. Both of these meetings are open to the general public but only members have access to the club library and products that are sold.

PROGRAM LIBRARY - APPLE PI currently has a library of 9,000 programs. All current disks are in 16 sector (3.3, Pascal, CP/M) format and are available to any member. APPLE PI Members can obtain copies from the library:

1) By coming to the monthly informal meeting (swap meet);
2) By written request to the club librarian (at any meeting or by mail);
3) By electronic mail on APPLE PI's bulletin board system:

DISK OF THE MONTH - Each month a collection of some of the best programs donated to APPLE PI during the preceding month are made available. The DOM can be purchased at any group meeting or by mail.

DUES - Current membership dues are **$18.00** per year, with a one-time application fee of **$10.00.** Checks should be made payable to DENVER APPLE PI.

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ADVERTISING RATES

1/4 Page	$ 25.00
1/2 Page	$ 40.00
Full Page	$ 70.00

At the Meeting

The March general meeting will be held on March 5th at the Green Center, School of Mines (where else?) at 7:00 PM. This month we are pleased to have with us a special return engagement of a past member of Denver Apple Pi. Star of CPU, Screen and Disk Drive, Mr. Orca himself, Mike Westerfield, will be our guest speaker and bring us up to date on the goings-on of his company, The Byte Works. ORCA/M, the Byte Works' assembler, was chosen by Apple to be the foundation of the Apple //gs development system, the Apple Programmers Workshop (APW). Mike will demonstrate the Byte Works version of APW and will also be making this and other Byte Works products available to club members at special discounted prices.

Plan to come to the meeting or see Mike at the core meet on Sunday March 8th for an Assembly Book authors signing party. Both authors will be there, Mike and Peg Smith. They can answer your questions about Assembly language and sign your copy of the book. If you don't have the Assembly book yet you can pick one up at B. Dalton or other fine bookstores for $ 29.95 or you can purchase your copy at the core meet for only $19.95 (special price for Pi members only). See you at the meetings.

DON'T PANIC!!!!!

You did not miss your February Seed because we did not print one. February was the shortest month and we just did not have time to print one. Truth is, once again no one sent anything in. Seed policy is "All the news whose print will fit". Please send us something.

AppleWorks 2.0

Time is running out to upgrade your AppleWorks. Apple will ship you a complete new 2.0 package if you own an older version. The cost is $50.00 and you must send in your original Startup disk and cover from the Docs. This offer is over at the end of April, 1987, so if you want to take advantage of the offer you better get going.

The new version offers Mail Merge, improvements to the spreadsheet, and the ability to recognise memory upgrades. If you plan to purchase AppleWorks for the first time (retail $250) you can save money by going to a store like B. Dalton, purchase an older version (I have seen version 1.2 priced at $125) and then get the upgrade. You could spend $175.00 this way and get the latest and greatest version.

BBS PHONE NUMBER

422 - 3716

HOT LINE

422 - 0005

Dear John

JOHNNY APPLESEED

Dear John,

I have been thinking of getting another disk drive. I have an Apple //c with the built in drive and I can't decide if I should get another 5 1/4 drive or a 3.5 drive. A friend told me that he thinks that the 5 1/4 is on its way out. Can you help?

Disk-usted

P.S. Can I copy files back and forth from 5 1/4 to 3.5 just like 5 1/4 to 5 1/4?

Dear Disk-usted,

The 5.25 disk is far from being on its way out but don't look for many more improvements in this format. The 3.5 has so much more to offer that most companies are swinging over to that format. If you are in the market for a new drive I would suggest the 3.5. Pound for pound the 3.5 is a much better value.

Yes, you can move files back and forth, but not all disk copy programs work at this time. You will find that it is easier to move from 5 1/4 -> 3.5 than 3.5 -> 5 1/4. If you use a file copy program, like the new Apple utilities, you can go either way with no problem.

John

Dear John,

I heard that Apple is coming out with a new //e. Is that true?

// Much

Dear // Much,

The new //e is out and on display in many of your Apple dealers' stores. Some stores are keeping them in the back room until all the older models are sold.

The new //e is the same color as the //gs (platinum) and has the old keyboard plus an 18 key numeric key pad built in. The Keyboard is //gs compatible to make //gs upgrades easier. The //e now comes with new training disks and the 128k 80 column card already in slot 0.

John

Dear John,

I have an IBM/PC at work and a Apple //e at home. I read that Apple has now made it possible to read the IBM disks. What have you heard about this?

Little Blue Apples

Dear Little,

Sorry...the IBM compatability is for the Mac, not the //'s.

John

Send your questions to:

Johnny Appleseed
c/o Denver Apple Pi
P.O.Box 17467
Denver, CO 80217

-- or --

E-Mail on the Apple Pi BBS

GREEN APPLES

by Randall Ansley

ProDOS is just too hard to use, it takes up too much room in memory and they left out stuff like INIT! These are the things I hear when people tell me that they would rather use DOS 3.3 over ProDOS. DOS 3.3 is an old friend, and like an old friend, it is hard to move away and make new friends. I still use DOS 3.3 from time to time when I just need a quick and dirty program; however, I have gotten hooked on the benefits of ProDOS and put up with some small inconveniences in trade for the power ProDOS has to offer.

ProDOS really is no harder to use than DOS 3.3. It is different, and some new things will need to be learned, but most of the commands are the same as DOS 3.3. Some differences include STORE & RESTORE. In DOS 3.3 the command STORE would save an Applesoft array to cassette tape and RESTORE would retrieve that information. Under ProDOS, these commands save and retrieve variables to a disk file. Other commands like RENAME, LOCK, UNLOCK, POSITION and a few others work much the same in both DOS and ProDOS with some small changes to fit the individual system. For the most part these differences are minor.

ProDOS is larger than DOS 3.3, thus taking up more memory; however, DOS 3.3 was designed to work at the top of a 48k Apple. When 64k machines came out (or language cards were put in making 64k) DOS 3.3 was never changed to move up to the top of 64k memory. This left a big gap in memory when using Applesoft. ProDOS lives at the top of the 64k memory, so even though ProDOS is bigger, the net result is more space with ProDOS than with DOS 3.3. Third party software companies produce software that will move DOS 3.3 up into the top of 64k memory, but you only really gain about 5k over ProDOS and you have to pay for another piece of software.

As for INIT, well, you've got me there. ProDOS cannot format disks like DOS 3.3. This utilitiy is a separate program that Apple licenses to software developers. You will find format utilities in products such as the Apple Utilities disk, AppleWorks and so on.

Well, what about the extra advantages that ProDOS has over DOS 3.3? First off, the directory (CATALOG) is very different. ProDOS gives you a tree type structure that allows you to organize your files by using directories. This is more like the big boys (mainframes) do it. You also have more information available when you type CATALOG. This information includes more detailed file types, date stamping of files when created or changed, and a line in the listing to tell you how much disk space you have used and how much room you have left.

Another big plus about ProDOS is the built in /RAM disk. If you are using a 128k Apple and you are using DOS 3.3, you cannot use the extra 64k of memory unless you purchase another program. With ProDOS you can use your top 64k as an extra (super fast) disk. The use of this /RAM disk is only limited by your own imagination.

When you format a ProDOS disk you give it a name. This name can be used by your programs to find a disk in a drive without knowing what drive thew disk is in. For example if you name your disk /DATA you can use a basic command like:

```
100  PRINT D$;"OPEN /DATA/STUFF"
```

This line of code will find a disk named "/DATA" whithout knowing the disk drive it is in and then open a file called STUFF. You can still use ,D2 or ,S6 but once you get used to the prefix /DISK.NAME you will be hooked.

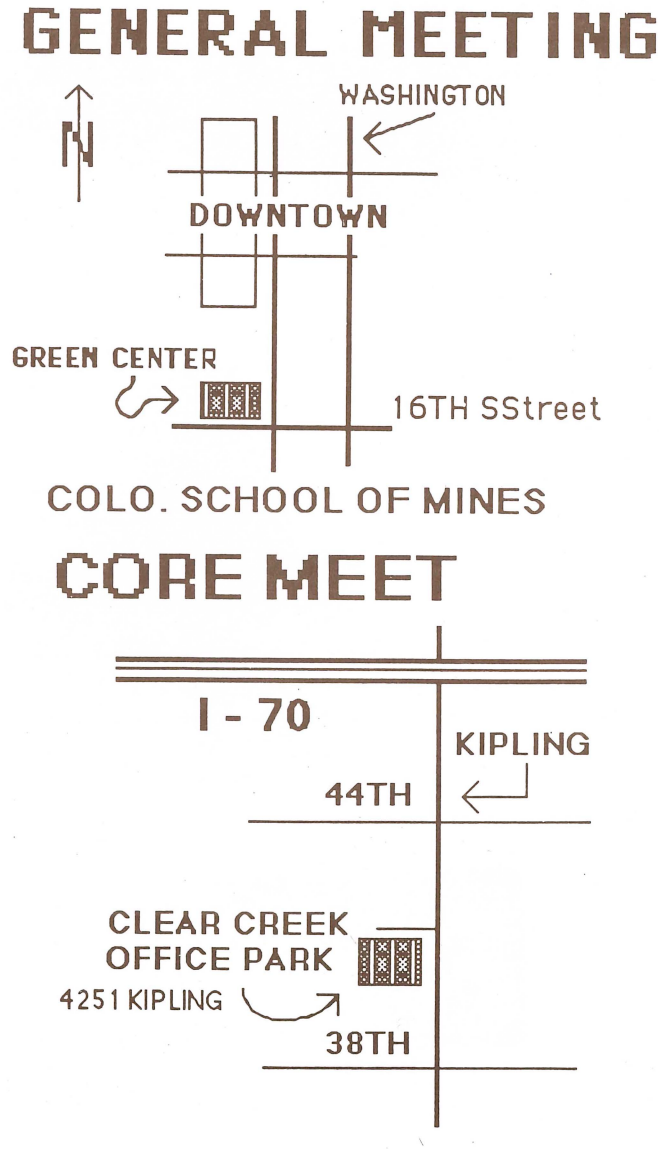
One last goodie here (by no means the last ProDOS goodie) is the smart RUN command. In DOS 3.3 to RUN a program you need to type RUN or BRUN. With

ProDOS just type - (hyphen) and the filename. ProDOS will figure it out and RUN/BRUN the program.

ProDOS has a lot to offer. DOS 3.3 will always be around, but I'm sure if you give ProDOS a chance, you'll like it.

There is a movement afoot to have the Apple Pi BBS (Bulletin Board System) upgraded to better software. For years the BBS has been running under GBBS. The software, admittedly, leaves a lot to be desired. Other software such as upgraded GBBS or the very popular ProTree software would make the BBS a lot more whiz-bang and a lot easier to use. Bob Garth (inventor of ProTree) had offered ProTree to Apple Pi free. Apple Pi refused the offer because the BBS hardware would not support ProDOS (the ProTree OS). At the time of this offer the club officers voted not to upgrade the BBS because it would require spending $500 to $700 for hardware. It was decided that because only a small number of Pi members had modems, it would not be proper to spend that much money on something that would benefit the few and not the many.

Well, the times have changed, more members have modems, and the BBS has become a very visible window to Apple Pi. If you would like to see Apple Pi spend the money to upgrade the BBS, please send in a written note saying so. On the other hand if you do not use a modem and you would not like the club to spend money this way, then please write in those wishes. The officers are empowered to run the club but they need to know what you want. Let them know; write in today.



COMPUTER SURVEY '87

This Questionnaire will be used to compile statistical information as to the types of computers and software that Apple Pi members use, and what types of tasks their computers are used for. Please fill out this form (or a copy of this form) and mail it to us. The data will be in a future issue of the SEED. Bring it to a meeting or mail it to:

DENVER APPLE PI
P.O. Box 17467
Denver, CO 80217

My computer is:

_____Apple][_____Apple][+ _____Apple //e _____Apple //c _____Apple ///
_____Lisa _____Lisa XL _____Macintosh _____Other_____

My Computer has _____(?) RAM:

_____32K _____48K _____64K _____128K _____256K _____512K
_____768K _____1M or more

I have the following goodies:

_____1 Disk Drive _____2 Disk Drives _____Dual Drive _____3 1/2 Drive
_____Hard Disk _____M _____Tape _____Other Storage_____
_____Printer _____Clock Card _____ROM Card _____Mouse
_____Modem _____300 _____1200 _____2400 _____Other _____ROM Blaster
_____Monochrome Monitor _____Color Monitor _____RGB _____Graphics Tablet
_____Light Pen _____Joystick _____Koala Pad _____Paddles
_____Video Input Device _____Other:_____
_____
_____

Software (How many commercial Programs?):

_____Word Processors _____Data Base _____Spread Sheet _____Integrated
_____Games _____Accounting _____Educational _____Languages (Computer)
_____Languages (Spoken) _____Utilities _____Other:_____
_____

I use my computer mostly for:_____
_____

I have owned a compute for _____years _____months.

I program in:

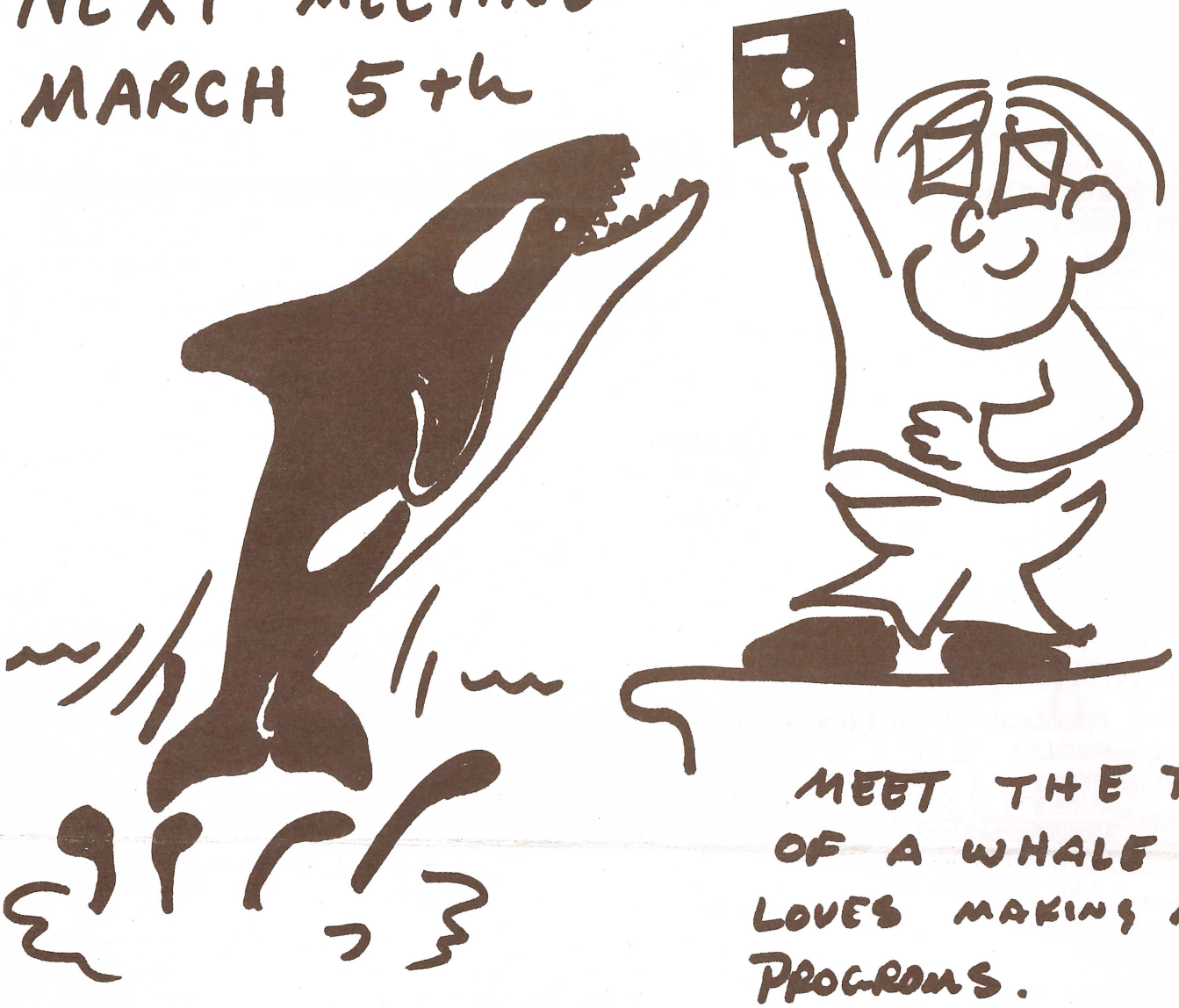
____BASIC _____ASM _____Forth _____C _____Fortram _____Pascal _____Logo
____Cobol _____Lisp _____Pilot _____Other:_____
____I do not program

I would like to help Apple Pi doing_____
_____

I would _____like _____not like my name given out to vendors that have Apple products.

I would like to know more about:_____
_____

NEXT MEETING
MARCH 5th



MEET THE TRAINER OF A WHALE THAT LOVES MAKING APPLE PROGRAMS.

THE SEED

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